

# RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS.

The release of the political prisoners from Fort Warren has already been mentioned. As a matter of record we subjoin the official order for their release:

Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, }  
November 27th, 1864. }

George P. Kane, George William Brown, Charles Howard, Frank K. Howard, Henry M. Warfield, William G. Harrison, Robert Hull, S. Teackle Wallis, Charles Macgill, William Gatchell, Thomas W. Hall, T. Parkin Scott, William H. Winder, B. L. Cutter.

The above named prisoners are released agreeable to the following telegram:

J. DIMMICK, Col. 1st Art'y, Com. Fort. Colonel J. Dimmick, United States Army, Fort Warren, Boston:

The Secretary of War directs that you release all the Maryland State prisoners; also, any other State prisoners that may be in your custody, and report to this office.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Asst. Adj. Gen'l.

True copy.

J. DIMMICK, Col. 1st Art'y, Com'g Fort. Fort Warren, November 27, 1864. E. D. T.

All the released prisoners are from Baltimore, except Charles Macgill, who is from Hagerstown, Md., William H. Winder, from Philadelphia, and B. L. Cutter, from Charlestown, Mass. Samuel Lyon, of Bellevue, has also been released, having been exchanged for Captain Schley. Fort Warren is said to be now clear of State prisoners.

The Boston Courier, in publishing the order for the release of the prisoners, remarks:

The phraseology of the order will strike some persons as a little *promiscuous*. The names specified appear only in the certificate of release furnished by Col. Dimmick, while the order of the department only mentions in general terms "all the Maryland State prisoners"—and, so that none may be overlooked in this act of amnesty, "any other State prisoners" in the custody of the commandant. We infer from this that as these gentlemen were arrested without warrant, and have been held in prison without law, so no record of their names even, much less any specification of their imputed offenses, has been kept at the War Department. We must say that this seems to us a very irresponsible way of doing public business; and none the less so that among the gentlemen released are persons of not a little social distinction and public consideration—for instance the late Mayor of Baltimore, and the various members of the Maryland Legislature, who were seized and incarcerated when that body was broken up by the violent action of the administration, more than a year ago. We have understood that the arrest in question was then made by order of one of Mr. Lincoln's Secretaries, without the knowledge of the others, or of the President; and also that at the very time reports were in preparation by committees of both branches of the Legislature, showing the unconstitutionality of secession, which would undoubtedly have been accepted by the Legislature, had no such extraordinary interference been had with that assembly.

In consequence of that action, however, these gentlemen have now been imprisoned during this long period; and at last their prison doors are thrown open, and they are permitted to go at large without any condition, it being well known that they steadily declined placing themselves in the awkward and not very honorable position of thus acknowledging themselves guilty of charges which had never been exhibited against them. They have had the personal inconveniences of this confinement; but it is plain that instead of victims, they thus come out triumphant; and that only the natural indignation with which they and their friends will look back upon this useless persecution, remains. Let us trust that we have had the last example of such unwarrantable and unjustifiable exercise of brief authority.

## RELEASED FROM FORT LAFAYETTE.

The New York Post says:

Pierre Soule and Mazarean, the New Orleans sheriff, and two others whose names could not be ascertained, were released from Fort Lafayette on Thursday, by order of the War Department direct. Mr. Soule is now stopping at the New York Hotel. Agents of the government have since Friday morning been engaged in examinations at the fort and arrangements are making which will result in the discharge of nearly all of the thirty prisoners now in confinement. Among those now in the fort are the "French lady" and the slaver Machado, both of whom are in close confinement. It is not supposed, however, that these important prisoners will be included in the expected amnesty.

The New York Express, of Saturday afternoon, says:

The proposed serenade to the released prisoners of State, which was announced to come off last evening at the New York Hotel, drew together quite a large concourse of people, desirous to witness the compliment thus sought to be bestowed on men who for opinion's sake had suffered long months of incarceration in the government's hands. Several of the ward clubs on their return from the mass meeting at the Cooper Institute, honored them with a ball and a tune, but elicited no response. Many questions were put as to the probable cause of the postponement of the serenade. It was learned that the gentlemen themselves had made an earnest request that they might be allowed to remain quiet and unmolested during their temporary sojourn in the city, and therefore politely refused to accept any serenade. Mr. Winder occupies a room in the New York Hotel, but Hon. Pierre Soule, on account of the crowded state of the house, has a room in the Hotel Julian. He looks very well. Marshal Kane is also stopping at the New York Hotel, together with Dr. Macgill; both of them are tall and well developed. They have already been waited on by some prominent citizens, but they maintain a strict silence and avoid all public notoriety. Mayor Brown, of Baltimore, was also in the city, but positively refused to accept of any public demonstration, though tendered by a large body of citizens. It is not known how long they will remain in the city—and it is said Mr. Soule is going to France, or some other part of Europe.

## THE CASE OF JUDGE CARMICHAEL.

The Kent (Md.) News of Friday last says:

We understand from reliable authority that when Judge Carmichael signed the parole not to do any act of hostility to the government nor give aid and comfort to the enemy, that the only addition made by him was as to the interpretation that might be given to the parole, and to exclude any improper construction, he superadded that it was not to impair any of his constitutional rights as a judge or a citizen. This was not objectionable to the department, because the paper could not rightfully bear such construction, and hence the order of the Secretary, based upon it, for the judge's release. We learn that the countermand of his discharge on the succeeding day, was at the instance of a few persons residing outside of our judicial district, and on the Western Shore.